

ALAMOS CANYON MITIGATIONS/ENHANCEMENTS, 4/06

I) Canyon West Corridor

Currently the Canyon West culvert is a non-functional passageway for wildlife.

Pros: Viable linkage between Simi Hills and Santa Susana Mtns for larger wildlife

Cons: Steep path on approach
Running water in culvert
Debris in culvert
Poor visibility through culvert

BIOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE = 4 (1-10 scale, 1 is highest)

Mitigations/Enhancements (Passageway Structural Improvements)

Proposal 1: Twin culverts enlarged into one bridge or undercrossing under 118.

Pros: • More suitable size for large and medium-sized mammals
• Decreased angle of steep approach
• Improved line-of-sight through undercrossing

Cons: ???

Cost: HIGH (>\$2,000,000)

Proposal 2: Twin culverts would not be combined, but steep approach regraded and entrances lowered on north side.

Pros: • Easier approach
• Improved line-of-sight through undercrossing

Cons: ???

Cost: MODERATE (\$500,000-\$2,000,000)

Proposal 3: Raised 5-foot wide "catwalk" inside one or both culverts and run their entire length.

Pros: • Decreased angle of steep approach
• Above running water and debris

Cons: ???

Cost: LOW (<\$500,000)

II) Canyon Road Undercrossing

Currently functional corridor for multiple medium and large animals.

Pros: • Short traverse
• Good visibility through corridor
• Natural lighting in corridor
• Native vegetation
• Flat

Cons: • Two-lane asphalt road in the middle of passageway
• Human traffic
• Dumping
• Homeless camps

Mitigations/Enhancements

Proposal 1. Increase vegetative cover with trees and shrubs along Alamos Canyon Road.

Pros: • Encourages more reclusive species to use underpass

Cons: ???

Cost: LOW (<\$500,000)

Proposal 2. Paved road ripped and changed to decomposed granite surface, removal of barbed wire fencing.

Pros: • More inviting corridor surface
• Less restricted wildlife movement

Cons: ???

Cost: LOW (<\$500,000)

Proposal 3. Gate installed near intersection of road and railroad tracks, removal of homeless camps.

Pros: • Reduces human traffic & impact
• Reduces dumping

Cons: • Removal of camps represents a social issue and potential social cost

Cost: LOW (<\$500,000)

Proposal 4. Enlarged undercrossings at railroad crossing and Los Angeles Ave, conservation easement along Alamos West Canyon Creek to Arroyo Simi, earthen-bottomed 15-foot culvert (min.) plus 500-foot wide habitat buffer.

Pros: • Removes wildlife barriers (railroad bridge and too-small culvert at LA Ave)

Cons: • Doesn't address train disturbance of wildlife

Cost: HIGH (>\$2,000,000)

III) Canyon East Corridor

Currently the Canyon East culvert is a non-functional passageway for wildlife.

Pros: • Viable linkage between Simi Hills and Santa Susana Mtns for existing wildlife

Cons: • Size constraints
• Too long

Mitigations/Enhancements

Proposal 1. Increase vegetative cover along drainage.

Pros: • Encourages more reclusive species to utilize the underpass

Cons: ???

Cost: LOW (<\$500,000)

Proposal 2. Enlarge culvert with "tunnel jacking".

Pros: • Alleviates size constraints
• Enhance visibility through culvert

Cons: ???

Cost: HIGH (>\$2,000,000)

General Mitigations for All Alamos Canyon Proposals

- 1) Install wildlife fencing
- 2) Reduce human disturbance
 - a) install a gate (Canyon Road)
 - b) remove homeless camps
 - c) routine law enforcement patrols
- 3) Address barriers to wildlife movement south of 118
 - a) railroad tracks
 - b) Los Angeles Avenue
 - c) developed areas